

# Social Sciences Discussion:

## Major points for the Working Group

- Human dimensions indicators need to be better integrated into ecosystem approaches. Economic agents a critical element of ecosystem structure. High priority value indicators, to what extent are the important attributes captured by them? MSE models critically dependent on econ/social metrics. Behavioral adaptations, preferences of human sub-groups important as emergent issues. Functional feeding relationships have similar properties between fish and people. Predicting behavioral responses is key element in MSE evaluation.
- Policy objectives much broader than EAF, EAM debate is critical. Communication between social and natural sciences critical, but does not necessarily imply we need complex models incorporating both. Optimization of yields in USA system where tradeoffs in EAF are balanced.
- Priority of economics in policy setting, not an afterthought. Modeling the management system may be helpful to know the scope of governance decision.

# Social Sciences Discussion: (continued)

## Major points for the Working Group

- How should people-oriented indicators be selected? Performance indicators - ecosystem structure/function vs. “wellness” of a particular issue. Observe what people do. Policy analyses articulate tradeoffs. Consider in advance.. Transitional costs of achieving ecosystem objectives. Scale problems in selecting indicators. Some indicators may be required under various statutes.
- Valuation systems, intergenerational, discounting, green accounting.
- Importance of outreach, communication, education in governance system.
- Ecosystem-based projections with behavioral adaptations more realistic than F-based social science projections. Larger-scale societal issues influence regional ecosystem drivers (e.g., demand for fish). Aquaculture vs. wild fisheries.